



Walter Vincent Filipek

June 16, 1925 - January 26, 2023

Walter Vincent Filipek, 97, died at his home on Sams Fork, with faithful family around him, on Thursday, January 26, 2023.

Walt was born to Anton and Aniela 'Nellie' Byk Filipek, in Raleigh, W. Va. on June 16, 1925. He graduated early 1943 from Woodrow Wilson H. S. to voluntarily enlist in the U.S. Marines. He was assigned to the Sixth Marine Division, sent to Okinawa and fought valorously on Sugar Loaf Hill. Due to being wounded twice he received two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star for heroic action. After returning to West Virginia he married Loyce J. Meador and was married until her death in 1989. He retired as Construction Superintendent for Union Carbide to care for his wife.

Walter and Loyce had five children. Mark A. (Glenna Jean) Filipek of Milton, W. David (Beverly Eads) Filipek of Cross Lanes, Mary Catherine "Cathie" (Tom) Merriman of Lexington, S. Carolina, Linda K. (Tom) Lightfoot of Chesapeake, Va., and John Eric Filipek (deceased May 1961- July 2013). Four grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and two gr. great grandchildren. Siblings that proceeded him are Mary F. Peelish, Stella F. Novak, Joseph John Filipek, Lily F. Janice, Blanch F. Champer, Stephenie F. Steele, Edward Joseph Filipek, Frances 'Jenny' F. Humphrey, Theodore 'Ted' Casimer Filipek. Siblings still living are Rosie Boso and Andrew 'Andy' Filipek. Friends to the end, Bobby and Ana Guthrie.

Walter's practical knowledge of all things from engineering and mechanical, to folk knowledge made him the go to guy for answers, sometimes long ones. Honorable son, husband, father, neighbor, sage and friend to so many, he will be greatly missed by all of us who loved and knew him.

Visitation will be 6 - 8 Tuesday evening January 31 at Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home and Mass of Christian Burial will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at St. Francis Catholic Church, Sixth Ave., St. Albans, W.Va. Graveside Military Service, Upper Mausoleum, Cunningham Memorial Cemetery. Luncheon after graveside at American Legion Hall, Pennsylvania Ave., St Albans.

Semper Fi! Guard the gates until we meet again!

Cemetery Details

Cunningham Memorial Park, Lower Mausoleum Chapel

815 Cunningham Lane
St. Albans, WV 25177
(304) 727-4349

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home
409 Sixth Avenue
Saint Albans, WV 25177
(304) 727-4325

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
525 Holley Street
St. Albans, WV 25177

Tribute Wall

TE

“ *Walter was at a level of based all men should strive to achieve.*

Texan2191 - December 22, 2025 at 11:26 PM

HW

“ *God Bless you, Semper Fi.*

Henry Williams - December 02, 2025 at 06:39 PM

CH

“ *Hoorah! Walter, thank you for being such an inspiration. Sincerely, Christopher.*

Christopher - November 13, 2025 at 01:09 AM

EB

“ *A true American Hero. Rest easy.*

E Bennett - November 12, 2025 at 02:32 PM

AN

“ *RIP you american hero and LEGEND*

anon - September 16, 2025 at 09:39 AM

WI

“ *A true American hero, someone to be remembered and cherished for many generations to come.*

Will - September 12, 2025 at 01:55 PM

CO

“ Walter was nothing short of an American treasure, and hero. I am eternally grateful that he was interviewed late in his life so Americans for centuries can remember the greatness Mr. Filipek emanated.

Connor - June 24, 2025 at 11:54 AM



“ Never met this Marine, but I would've loved to have served beside him. Walter is the true embodiment of what esprit de corps means. Rest in peace Sir!!

Randy Harris - May 26, 2025 at 12:28 PM

OV

“ All my condoléances to the family. I hadn't got the chance to meet him as i am french but i saw an interview of him and decided to write an article in a french magazine about this great patriot and soldier. God bless him.
Olivier VECE

Olivier VECE - April 11, 2025 at 12:27 AM

JB

“ A true American here

Jim Booney - March 31, 2025 at 04:18 PM

CP

“ Christopher P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Walter Vincent Filipek.

Christopher P. - February 15, 2025 at 01:11 AM



“ One of the greatest American Heroes who captured our attention on what's it's like to be free, but also helped us understand where that freedom came from! U.S. Marine Walter for life!! ☐

Tynicia Lancaster - January 29, 2025 at 09:41 PM

KL

“ Walter Vincent Filipek Forever! A fine interview on 'Remember WWII with Rishi Sharma'. Thank you, sir.

Kevin Re LoVullo - January 20, 2025 at 07:30 PM

TB

“ God bless this man. He's protecting the Gates of Heaven now. ☐

Tyler B - January 16, 2025 at 01:46 PM

AR

“ I just watched his interview. What a Man and American hero this Man was. Thank you for your service. I'm also born and raised in WV. God Bless

Art - January 15, 2025 at 06:18 PM

TR

“ Just came to say, this guy is a legend. Incredibly grateful I came across that interview

Trent - January 01, 2025 at 05:44 PM

JW

Walter was a real Man a beast in the war against Japan. Thank you for your service

James Wible - January 03, 2025 at 09:36 PM

EH

“ I just watched his interview. My from many generations faught in war or just served in pretty much every branch of the military. I just want to say he was a true hero and send condolences to his family and friends

Eli Harris - December 30, 2024 at 03:17 PM

LU

“ great guy!

luka - December 23, 2024 at 09:21 AM

EK

“ I just listened to an interview Walter did when he was 94, He said he was 49 backwards. I want to give condolences to his family and friends. I wish I had gotten to speak with him and hear some stories. He was part of the greatest generation of people that America has ever birthed. I'm sure y'all miss him but I know for sure everyone that knew Walter will never forget him. God Bless his soul and hoorah

Eric Krajniak - December 20, 2024 at 12:57 AM

RE

“ I watched his interview and i was so impressed of the valor that he had and the tough mentality he needed to have to survive those environments that he endoured. This is the mentality of a diehard marine and he is truly the real deal. God bless and rest in peace Marine you have earned your peace.

Rey - December 19, 2024 at 09:37 AM

ST

“ Rest in peace American hero. 🇺🇸

shannon Toler - December 19, 2024 at 08:54 AM

JW

Walter was a great American hero. Walter was a beast in the Pacific theater

James Wible - January 03, 2025 at 09:40 PM

JW

“ *Semper Fi.
Rest well Marine. You earned it.*

Joshua Wesley - December 16, 2024 at 02:58 PM

LW

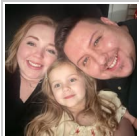
Yes sir,tell my dad HI,,marine ,,you rock buddy

Linwood Wakefield - December 17, 2024 at 04:46 AM

SC

“ *Truly an American Hero!*

Sarah Cornett - August 26, 2024 at 08:48 AM



“ *Walter Filipek was a national treasure and an American hero. May he rest in peace. My condolences go out to the family.*

Ash Coggan - August 09, 2024 at 02:55 PM

JP

“ *I never met Mr Filipek but am so grateful for his service to our country. Thankyou for my freedom sir*

John Pottorff - February 02, 2023 at 07:54 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Walter Vincent Filipek.*



January 31, 2023 at 12:39 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Walter Vincent Filipek.*



January 30, 2023 at 07:01 PM



“ *Dan Butler wanted to let the family know that he sends condolences on your loss.*

Connie Pitman - January 29, 2023 at 11:07 PM